

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 745

By Herron

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of the Honorable Jimmie M.
Leach of Atwood, Carroll County.

WHEREAS, it was with great sadness and a profound sense of loss that the members of
this General Assembly and the citizens of our state learned of the death of Jimmie Leach; and

WHEREAS, he will live forever in our hearts as a kind and generous gentleman who was
a friend to all in West Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Jimmie Leach was a distinguished citizen of the state of Tennessee who
was very dedicated to his profession, his community and his family; and

WHEREAS, born on April 25, 1925, Jimmie Leach was the son of the late Riley Moore
and Mattie May Bryant Leach of Atwood, Carroll County; and

WHEREAS, Jimmie proudly defended his country by bravely serving as a member of the
United States Navy in the Pacific Theater during World War II; and

WHEREAS, after his discharge from the Navy, Jimmie Leach enlisted in the Tennessee
National Guard, which he astutely served as Commander of the Milan National Guard Unit; and

WHEREAS, for thirty-one outstanding years, Jimmie Leach served with acumen in the
military; he retired as a full colonel on the Tennessee National Guard Adjutant General State
Staff; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Leach was also a graduate of Command and General Staff College
at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas; and

WHEREAS, from 1954-1985, Jimmie Leach served with alacrity and acuity as
Postmaster of the United States Post Office in Atwood; and

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WHEREAS, Jimmie Leach was a stellar presence in numerous civic and political activities throughout West Tennessee; he served as Speaker Ned McWherter's top gubernatorial campaign aide for all of West Tennessee outside of Memphis; and

WHEREAS, from 1986-1994, Jimmie Leach was Governor Ned McWherter's top staff aide and trouble-shooter for the West Tennessee region; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Leach's sterling efforts in numerous political campaigns were very helpful to numerous elected officials, including Congressman John Tanner, Governor Ned McWherter, and several legislative and local officials; and

WHEREAS, Jimmie Leach was an active and devout member of the Atwood Church of Christ, which he faithfully served as a deacon for several years; and

WHEREAS, the legacy Jimmie Leach leaves behind will be remembered and treasured by friends and associates for many years to come; and

WHEREAS, Jimmie Leach is survived by his wife of 54 years, Gerthal Essary Leach; his children, Madeleine Russell and Jimmie Van Leach; and his grandchildren, Thomas Earl Russell, Jr. and Elizabeth Leach Russell; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this legislative body should pause in its deliberations to remember the exemplary life of this fine Tennessean; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Jimmie M. Leach, remembering with admiration his exemplary character and his many selfless contributions to the community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Colonel Leach.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.